

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A method of isolating a newborn calf from the calf's mother, the method comprising:
  - a) providing a rigid pen having an open floor;
  - b) attaching the pen to a motorized vehicle;
  - c) operating the vehicle to raise the pen off of the ground;
  - d) driving the vehicle and raised pen to an area at which the calf and the mother cow are located;
  - e) confirming that a bottom of the pen is raised to a height greater than a height of the calf;
  - f) operating the motorized vehicle to position the raised pen over the calf;
  - and
  - g) lowering the pen onto the ground such that the calf is inside of the pen and the mother cow is outside of the pen.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein step e) further includes operating the vehicle to further raise the bottom of the pen to a height greater than a height of the calf.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein steps a) – g) are performed by a user operating the motorized vehicle, the method further comprising:
  - h) the user exiting the motorized vehicle and entering the pen.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the pen defines a front having a coupling device for attachment to the motorized vehicle and defining an opening, and further wherein step h) is characterized by the user entering the pen through the opening.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein step h) is further characterized by the user not touching the ground until inside of the pen.
6. The method of claim 4, wherein step h) is further characterized by the mother cow being impeded from entering the pen via the opening.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the motorized vehicle includes a front end positioned adjacent the front of the cage following step b), and further wherein step h) is further characterized by a spacing being established between the front end of the motorized vehicle and the front side of the pen, the spacing being less than an approximately width of an adult cow.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the pen includes an outer frame and an inner cage connected to, and positioned within, the frame, the method further comprising:
  - h) directing the calf into the inner cage.
9. The method of claim 8, further comprising:
  - i) raising the pen, including the calf within the inner cage.
10. The method of claim 9, further comprising:
  - j) driving the vehicle, including the pen and the calf within the inner cage, to a different location.
11. The method of claim 10, further comprising:
  - k) releasing the calf from the inner cage; and
  - l) releasing the calf from the pen.
12. The method of claim 8, wherein the inner cage is foldable relative to the frame, the method further comprising:

unfolding the inner cage prior to step h).

13. The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed at a farm.
14. The method of claim 1, wherein the motorized vehicle is repeatedly operated apart from the pen in a vicinity of the mother cow.
15. The method of claim 14, wherein the motorized vehicle is a skid steer loader.
16. A portable pen for use in isolating a newborn calf from the calf's mother, the pen comprising:
  - a frame defining a front, a back, and opposing sides combining to define an interior pen region, wherein the pen is characterized as having an open floor and further wherein the front forms an enlarged opening, the enlarged opening being larger than any opening defined at least one of the back and opposing sides; and
  - a coupling device mounted to an exterior of the front of the frame, the coupling device adapted for connection to a corresponding component of a motorized vehicle.
17. The portable pen of claim 16, further comprising:
  - an inner cage secured to an interior of the frame.
18. The portable pen of claim 17, wherein the inner cage is transitionable between a folded state and an unfolded state.
19. The portable pen of claim 16, further comprising:

a door hingedly attached to the back of the frame, wherein attachment of the door is such that the door can swing inwardly or outwardly relative to the frame.